24th January 1928]

Representation of municipalities in the Municipal Excise Committees.

* 1343 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Municipal Excise Committees the Government officials are in the majority and the representatives of the municipal councils are in a minority;

(b) whether it is a fact that some municipal councils like Cocanada and Bezwada have been systematically refusing to elect representatives to those Committees as the opinions of their representatives are not cared for in those Committees; and

(c) whether the Government intend to reorganize the said Committees so as to contain the representatives of the municipalities in a majority?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Some municipal councils have not been sending representatives to the Excise Advisory Committees. The Government are not aware whether Bezwada and Cocanada are amongst them. The Government are not also aware that the opinions of the representatives of municipal councils are not cared for in the Committees.

(c) The hon. Member's attention is invited to G.O. No. 1576, dated 17th September 1926, which has been published and to the Government Notification No. 227, dated 21st July 1927, published at pages 1188–89, Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette.*

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATHI MUDALIYAR :—"With reference to clause (a) of the question whether it is a fact that in the Municipal Excise Committees the Government Officials are in the majority and the representatives of the Municipal Councils are in a minority, the answer given is 'No.' It means that the representatives of the Municipal Council are not in a minority. Under the rules, is it not true that the Municipal Councils are to send 2 representatives, when there are three officials in the committee? The Municipal Councils are allowed two members only. Do they consider that the representatives of the Municipal Councils are not in a minority?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"The representatives of Municipal Councils are in a minority. The meaning of the answer is that there is a non-official majority."

Excise sub-inspectors and clerks in the West Coast Division.

* 1344 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total number of Excise sub-inspectors and clerks employed in the West Coast Division;

(b) how many of them are natives of South Kanara; and

(c) how many of them are natives of Malabar?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the half-yearly list of establishments of the sub-inspectors and clerks of the Excise Department, copy of which is available in the Council Library.

(b) & (c) The Government have not the information.